

Application No. 09/808,652

REMARKS

Claims 4-12, as amended, are pending herein, claims 1-3 having been canceled.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 6, 7, 11, and 12 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,683,884 issued to Howard in view of U.S. Patent 6,438,134 issued to Chow *et al.*

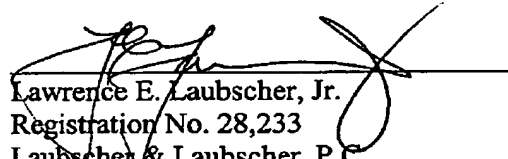
The Examiner has indicated that claim 4 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, claim 4 has been rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of previous claim 1. The remaining claims 5, 6, and 9-12 have been amended to be dependent, either directly or indirectly through other claims, on claim 4. Claims 7 and 8 remain dependent on claims 6 and 7, respectively, which is now ultimately dependent on claim 4.

In addition, claims 5, 8, 9, and 10 have been amended to improve grammar.

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that the claims as amended herein are in condition for allowance. Allowance of all claims 4-12 is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

June 23, 2006


Lawrence E. Laubscher, Jr.
Registration No. 28,233
Laubscher & Laubscher, P.C.
1160 Spa Road, Suite 2B
Annapolis, MD 21403
Telephone: (410) 280-6608

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence consisting of 8 pages (including cover) is being transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at facsimile No. 571-273-8300 on June 23, 2006.

Ann Simonini

5 Signature: 

L:\Station3\Patent\document\21795.amd3.wpd